

Judiciary Committee will support the President, the Attorney General, Director Freeh, and the hundreds of law enforcement officials involved in this effort. We will provide them with any assistance, legislative or otherwise, that they may need in that regard. I want to compliment each and every one of them, especially Director Freeh and the FBI, for their leadership in the work they have done in uncovering all the things they have, thus far.

President Clinton was correct when he described the terrorists who committed this act as "evil cowards." If the barbaric individuals responsible for this venomous, wicked act believe they could intimidate, punish, or coerce the United States of America, they were wrong. Dead wrong. We must and we will guarantee that any terrorist, be he domestic or international, know that our Nation's policy will be one of swift and effective retribution.

For years, many in Congress have been fighting for passage of legislation aimed at enhancing our domestic and international counterterrorism efforts. I have been one of those. Much of this legislation is embodied in the Dole-Hatch crime bill that was introduced on the first day of this Congress. Recently, the administration forwarded to Congress its own counterterrorism bill that is similar to the Dole-Hatch proposal.

Since the tragic incident of last week, Senator DOLE and I have been working with Senators NICKLES and INHOFE on a comprehensive bill that will combine the better provisions from both the Dole-Hatch and administration bills into a single vehicle. Although this legislation is ready, we will delay its introduction until we can incorporate the additional provisions the President referred to last evening in his 60 Minutes interview. We will also hold hearings in the Judiciary Committee later this week to determine what can be done to fight terrorism.

The heinous attack on innocent men, women, and children underscores the need for tough, effective laws to fight the scourge of terrorism. We must ensure that Federal law enforcement officials have the tools to prevent and detect future terrorist attempts. Legislation is needed, and it is needed now, to give them those tools.

In addition to whatever recommendations the President may promulgate, our bill will certainly do the following:

It will increase the penalties for committing terrorist acts here in the United States;

Our legislation will add the crime of conspiracy to terrorism offenses, thus, permitting the Federal law enforcement agencies to stop terrorist organizations at their formation rather than waiting until after they have committed their terrorist acts;

Although the tragedy in Oklahoma appears to have been committed by individuals who are from the United States, it is important that we protect

our citizens from foreign terrorists as well. Our bill will provide law enforcement and courts the tools they need to quickly remove alien terrorists from our midst without jeopardizing national security or the lives of law enforcement personnel;

Our legislation also seeks to prevent individuals who support or engage in terrorist activities from ever entering the United States. The bill would permit the Secretary of State to withhold visas from certain individuals who come from nations that sponsor terrorism, or from individuals who are members of organizations suspected of terrorist activities;

Our bill further includes provisions making it a crime to knowingly provide material support to groups designated by a Presidential finding to be engaged in terrorist activities;

Finally, our bill provides for numerous other needed improvements in the law to fight the scourge of terrorism. I would note that many of the provisions of this bill enjoy broad bipartisan support, and in several cases, have passed the Senate on previous occasions.

We must, however, resist the urge to leap to conclusions and unfairly tar certain political minorities with recriminations for last Wednesday's tragic events. As President Clinton said last evening, "We must be careful not to stereotype people from other groups." Once all of the perpetrators of this act are apprehended, there will be time enough to ensure that justice is done.

As a final note, I want to commend President Clinton for his leadership that he has exhibited in the face of this tragedy. He and his administration have done a superb job in responding to this tragedy. The Department of Justice, the FBI, and all of the police and rescue workers in Oklahoma must be acknowledged for their efforts to date.

In closing, what is shocking to so many is the apparent fact that those responsible for this atrocity are U.S. citizens. To think that Americans could do this to one another, it is unbelievable.

Yet these killers are not true Americans, not in my book. Americans are the men, women, and children who died under the sea of concrete and steel. Americans are the rescue workers, the volunteers, the law enforcement officials and investigators who are clearing up the chaos that has occurred in Oklahoma City. The genuine Americans are the overwhelming number who will forever reel at the senselessness and horror of April 19, 1995. It falls on everyone as Americans in heart and spirit, to condemn this sort of political extremism. Anarchistic radicalism of this sort—be it from the left or the right—will not prevail in our freedom-loving democracy.

The rule of law and popular government will prevail. We intend by this legislation to see that it prevails, and that it prevails with the force that really should be behind the rule of law.

There are a lot of other things I will say about the bill we will file in the future, but suffice it to say these are some of the matters I wanted to cover in these few short remarks here.

Again, my lasting prayers, and that of my family, go out to those who have suffered so much through this ordeal, those who have suffered the loss of loved ones, those who have been maimed, and those who are related to those who have died or been maimed.

My love goes out to our Federal workers, too, for they are hard-working people who try to do the best they can. We want to make sure the Federal installations, as well as all other installations in this country, are secure from terrorism, terrorist activities, and from those who would subvert the very freedom fabric of our country.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

AN UNSPEAKABLE TRAGEDY

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me join my colleague, Senator DOLE from Kansas, and my colleague, Senator NICKLES from Oklahoma, and others, I am sure, who will today speak of the nearly unspeakable tragedy that occurred in Oklahoma City.

It is very hard to even describe the horror that has been visited on so many families, so many innocent victims. My hope is that in this period of national discussion and reconciliation dealing with this tragedy that we will find ways, again, as Americans, to speak of how we resolve differences and how we deal with grievances in our country without resorting to violence.

We have been offered as a people far too many sights and sounds on television of acts of terror visited on people living in foreign lands. Often it passes before the television screen and does not make much of an impact.

Obviously, this tragedy is more immediate. It occurs in the heartland of our country. It is the worst tragedy of its type in the history of our country. It comes at a time when there is a great deal of debate and unsettled feelings in our country about a lot of things. I hope it will require all of us again to decide that in our country, we make decisions in a process by which we debate and discuss and then peacefully resolve our differences in a democratic way and in a democratic system.

So my heart and prayers go to those in Oklahoma City, those who have lost family members, those victims who lost their lives, and those many others who devoted their lives in recent days and nights—often 24 hours a day—trying to help their fellow man and woman.

COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today marks the 80th anniversary of one of the most tragic events in world history—the genocide that brought death

to more than 1½ million Armenian men, women, and children at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. As we honor the memory of these individuals, we renew our commitment that the world will never forget their tragic suffering.

Between 1915 and 1923, officials of the Ottoman Empire carried out a systematic campaign to eradicate all Armenians. Innocent Armenians were murdered and those who survived were forced to flee their homeland and live in exile. Many of the survivors later made their way to the United States.

The campaign of genocide began with the execution of the Armenian leadership and proceeded with the targeting of the entire male population. It continued with the persecution of Armenian women, children, and the elderly, who were sent on forced death marches to be raped, tortured, and murdered. During this brutal 8-year period, over 1½ million Armenians died through massacres, disease, and starvation.

Unfortunately, even today, the Armenian people face continued violence and ethnic hatred. Since 1988, the conflict between Christian Armenians and Moslem Azerbaijanis for control of Nagorno-Karabakh has resulted in over 10,000 deaths and almost 1½ million refugees. Despite the May 1994 cease-fire and the armistice agreement signed the following month, a permanent solution to the conflict has yet to be found.

The United States has provided substantial humanitarian assistance to Armenia, but it has become increasingly difficult to deliver this assistance because of the continuing blockade by the Governments of Azerbaijan and Turkey. As a result, Armenia suffers from a long-standing shortage of food, fuel, and medical supplies. We need to redouble our efforts to end the current crisis and promote peaceful development of the region.

I commend the tireless efforts of the Armenian-Americans for their efforts to promote a peaceful solution to the conflict, and for keeping their Armenian heritage alive in the United States.

As we commemorate and honor the victims of the Armenian genocide, we renew our commitment to combat ethnic hatred and to end injustice and conflicts throughout the world.

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. BRADLEY. Mr. President, today marks the 80th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, the first great crime of the 20th century. Over 1½ million Armenians were murdered by the Ottoman Empire and its successor between 1915 and 1923. Many in this country and throughout the world still mourn the relatives they lost in the Armenian genocide. It is important that we take a moment to remember this terrible crime against humanity.

The 20th century has been not only a century of mass murder, but also a century of culpability in which the na-

tions of the world have failed to act to prevent or halt genocide. The slaughter of Armenians was ignored. The international community was too slow to act when the Nazis began killing Jews and Gypsies. Our response to the ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Rwanda has been feeble.

However, on this day, we not only mourn the losses sustained by Armenia, we also celebrate the contributions of Armenians to our civilization and culture, such as fellow New Jerseyans Christopher Babigian, a prominent physician and community leader, Krikor Zadourian, a leading businessman and community leader, and Haigaz Grigorian, a community leader active in relief work in Armenia, to name a few. Indeed, the American-Armenian community has done much to enrich New Jersey and the United States.

Armenia itself, Mr. President, has now reemerged as an independent state in which Armenians can control their own destiny for the first time in centuries. Tragically, though, Armenia is a country which has thus far been forced to devote its resources to war rather than to building a peaceful, prosperous, life for its people.

It is our responsibility to educate future generations about the dangers of intolerance and to fulfill the pledge of "never again." Remembering the horrors of 1915-23 is one way of rousing ourselves to give meaning to this pledge.

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise to join my colleagues in commemorating one of this century's most tragic events. Today marks the 80th anniversary of the Armenian genocide of 1915-23, recognized by some as the first genocide of this century when 1½ million Armenian men, women, and children lost their lives as a result of the brutal massacres and wholesale deportations conducted by the Turkish Ottoman rulers.

Mr. President, on this day 80 years ago began one of the great martyrdoms of modern history, a systematic and methodical campaign to exterminate an innocent people. An entire nation was uprooted from its homeland scattering thousands of survivors around the world. Thus this human tragedy, having left few families unaffected, and its anniversary have special meaning to Armenians everywhere.

The 1915 genocide represented the culmination of decades, and the development of an insidious pattern, of persecution against the Armenian community living in the Ottoman Empire. During the period 1894-96 and again in 1909, thousands of Armenians lost their lives at the hands of their ruthless persecutors. On April 24, 1915, Armenian intellectual, religious, and political leaders, were rounded up by Ottoman authorities, taken to remote parts of Anatolia and murdered.

At least 250,000 Armenians serving in the Ottoman Army were expelled and forced into labor battalions where executions and starvation were common. Men, women, and children were deported from their villages and obliged to march for weeks in the Syrian Desert where a majority of them perished.

There was no shortage of contemporaneous newspaper accounts in the United States of the Ottoman Turkish atrocities—a simple review of headlines appearing in the New York Times in mid-1915 yields the following: "Wholesale Massacres of Armenians by Turks," "Tales of Armenian Horrors Confirmed," "800,000 Armenians Counted Destroyed," "Thousands Protest Armenian Murders." In fact, through a congressionally chartered organization called Near East Relief, Americans contributed \$113 million in humanitarian assistance from 1915 to 1930 to help the survivors. In addition, 132,000 Armenian orphans were adopted in this country.

Perhaps America's most notable observer of the Armenian genocide was its distinguished ambassador to Turkey at the time, Henry Morgenthau, who published an article in the Red Cross magazine in 1918 describing the wide-scale and deliberate orchestration of Ottoman atrocities against the Armenian people as "the Greatest Horror in History." Morgenthau has also written the following about the Armenian genocide in this now famous passage:

Whatever crimes the most perverted instincts of the human mind can devise, and whatever refinements of persecutions and injustice the most debased imagination can conceive, became the daily misfortunes of this devoted people. I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915. The killing of the Armenian people was accompanied by the systematic destruction of churches, schools, libraries, treasures of art and of history, in an attempt to eliminate all traces of a noble civilization some three thousand years old.

Indeed, Morgenthau and other diplomats who witnessed and reported in great detail the enormous devastation of the Armenian community by the Ottomans would be astonished to learn today that the abundant evidence they collected, much of which is held in our own National Archives, and the testimony of survivors who are still with us, continue to be challenged without a trace of contrition. Despite the irrefutability of the documentation and testimony, including extensive accounts from survivors, witnesses, and historians, there are those who refuse to come to grips with the past, blame the victims, and deride reconciliation.

Remembrance and understanding, however, are universal imperatives essential to all decent people an decent